

Message Text

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ORIGIN NASA-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-10 EUR-12 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 OES-05

EB-07 USIE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00

FCC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-05 COME-00 BIB-01 DODE-00

SS-15 NSCE-00 NSC-05 /098 R

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APPROVED BY OES/SCI: COL. DAVOGT
NASA/AAD/JENAUGLE (DRAFT)
NASA/SL/RAMILLER (DRAFT)
NASA/WX/FJSWEET (DRAFT)
NASA/I/SEDOYLE (DRAFT)
EUR/NE:PFCANNEY
EUR/WE:EBEIGEL
ARA/BR:MR. SHUGART
AF/S:MR. CRUMP
EA/ANP:MICHAUD
EA/J:KARTMAN
EUR/CAN:DBLAKEMORE
EUR/CE:CASAGREN
NEA/INS:NACH
EB/TD:DANDERSON

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TO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

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UNCLASSIFIED

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJECT: POTENTIAL FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE WITH VIKING
ORBITER RECEIVER

REF: STATE A-4055

PASS DUTY OFFICER ASAP SATURDAY MORNING.

1. NASA REQUESTS POSTS RENDER ANY POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO
AVOID A POTENTIAL RADIO INTERFERENCE PROBLEM IN CONNECTION
WITH PLANNED LAUNCHINGS AUGUST 11 AND 21 OF TWO VIKING
SPACECRAFT CONSISTING OF AN ORBITER AND LANDER WHICH ARE
DESIGNED TO PERFORM SCIENTIFIC INVESTIGATIONS OF THE
PLANET MARS DURING THE LATTER HALF OF 1976 FROM MARTIAN
ORBIT AND ON MARTIAN SURFACE.

2. IN ORDER TO INCREASE DATA THAT CAN BE RETURNED BY
LANDER, THE LANDER HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO RETURN DATA VIA
ORBITER ACTING AS RELAY SATELLITE. ORBITER'S RELAY
RADIO HAS SENSITIVE FRONTEND EVEN WITH RADIO TURNED
OFF AND HAS RATHER BROAD BAND PASS TO ACHIEVE PERFORMANCE
REQUIREMENTS. FREQUENCY SPECTRUM WHERE RECEIVER IS
VULNERABLE:

371 - 391 MHZ
1400 - 1600 MHZ, AND
2900 - 3100 MHZ

DAMAGE CAN RESULT FROM EFFECTIVE RADIATED POWER LEVELS
ABOVE 130 DBM AT A SLANT RANGE OF 200 KILOMETERS TO THE
SPACECRAFT. THIS SUSCEPTIBILITY COVERS CW, SWEPT CW,
OR PULSED EMISSIONS.

3. CONCERN IS THAT GROUND BASED HIGH POWER RADAR OR
RADIO STATIONS MAY CAUSE UNINTENTIONAL DAMAGE TO RECEIVER
DURING LAUNCH PHASE OF FLIGHT.

4. THE LAUNCH PERIOD FOR THE TWO VIKING SPACECRAFT
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EXTENDS FROM 11 AUGUST 1975 TO 14 SEPTEMBER 1975. THE
LAUNCH DATES CAN BE AFFECTED BY WEATHER OR TECHNICAL
DELAYS. THEREFORE, AT THIS TIME WE REQUEST THAT, IF
POSSIBLE, POST REQUEST AN IRRADIATION RESTRICTION BY
HOST GOVERNMENTS WHICH COULD TAKE PLACE AT ANY OF
FOLLOWING DATES AND TIMES:

LAUNCH DATE	BEGINNING GMT DAY	ENDING GMT TIME	GMT DAY	GMT TIME
11 AUG 1975	223	2100	224	0200
12 AUG 1975	224	2100	225	0200
13 AUG 1975	225	2100	226	0200

SEPTTEL WILL BE ISSUED IF VIKING A IS NOT LAUNCHED IN THE THREE DAY PERIOD FROM 11 TO 13 AUGUST. SEPTTEL WILL BE SENT FOR VIKING B AFTER VIKING A IS LAUNCHED.

5. THE GEOMETRIC LAUNCH PROFILE FOLLOWS PATH FROM CAPE KENNEDY IN FLORIDA SE OVER ATLANTIC, OVER ASCENSION ISLAND CROSSING LOWER FOURTH OF AFRICA, SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN, COMING UP ACROSS NW PORTION OF AUSTRALIA, PAPUA-NEW GUINEA.

6. SPACECRAFT REACHES PARKING ORBIT ALTITUDE OF 90 MILES APPROXIMATELY 1200 MILES DOWNRANGE FROM LIFTOFF.

7. NASA REQUESTS POSTS CONTACT HOST GOVERNMENTS EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME AND REQUEST THEIR ASSISTANCE IN PROTECTING VIKING RECEIVER DURING THE LAUNCH PHASE. NASA WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF ANY PROBLEM RADIO SOURCES COULD BE TURNED OFF DURING THE INDICATED TIME.

8. FYI POSTS MAY WISH TO UTILIZE PROCEDURES DEVELOPED IN CONNECTION WITH APOLLO-SOYUZ CONTINGENCY PLANS REFTTEL ON FREQUENCY PROBLEMS. END FYI

9. REGRET LAST MINUTE NOTIFICATION THE SERIOUSNESS OF WHICH ONLY BECAME APPARENT THIS WEEK DURING FINAL CHECK-OUT REVIEWS. KISSINGER

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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